

AMESBURY RETIREMENT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, December 29, 2021 @ 1:30 PM
Amesbury City Hall Auditorium
62 Friend Street, Amesbury Massachusetts

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM.

In Attendance – Board Members: Donna Cornoni; Craig Bailey; Angel Wills

Absent – Board Members: Bonnijo Kitchin; David Van Dam

Retirement Administrator: Kevin A. Caira

New Member Enrollments

Motion made by Craig Bailey and seconded by Angel Wills to accept the new Member Enrollment Forms for:

City of Amesbury/School Department: Desiree McDonough, Paraprofessional.

City of Amesbury/Police Department: Jeffery C. Burr, Facilities (Group 1).

Unanimous vote to approve.

Buybacks/Redeposits

Board received a letter dated December 8, 2021 from the Reading Retirement System indicating that Susan Wilkinson was not a member of their System, did not have retirement deductions and was not eligible to become a member of the Reading Retirement System.

Refunds

Board received a letter dated December 8, 2021 from the Pittsfield Retirement System indicating that Vincenzo Tirone took a refund from their System in the amount of \$1,416.62 on January 26, 2021. Upon make-up the Pittsfield Retirement System will accept liability for four (4) months of creditable service. Motion made by Craig Bailey and seconded by Donna Cornoni to provide a buy back opportunity to Mr. Tirone. Unanimous vote to approve.

Transfers

The Board received a request from the Barnstable County Retirement System to transfer the account of William J. Scott former Director of the Economic and Development Department. The total amount of creditable service to be transferred is 20 years (20.0000). This includes the following service: 1 years and 5 months (1.4167) with the Franklin Regional Retirement System, 7 years (7.0000) with the Newburyport Retirement System, 5 years (5.0000) with the Essex Regional Retirement System and 6 years and 7 months with the Amesbury Retirement System. The total amount in account to be transferred is \$121,650.49. Motion made by Angel Wills and seconded by Donna Cornoni to transfer the account of William J. Scott to the Barnstable County Retirement System. Unanimous vote to approve.

Retirements

The Board received an Approval letter from PERAC through PROSPER for a survivors benefit to Alex R. Lester child of deceased member Mark C. Lester (DOD 10/05/2021) and dependent allowance payment to spouse Dawn E. Lester.

Retirement benefits have been calculated for first payment to Matthew C. Lavallee (DOR 10/29/2021), Kathleen A. Morrill (DOR 11/01/2021) and Pamela M. Locke (DOR 11/20/2021).

The following Items were reviewed and approved:

December 2021 Payroll Warrant.

December 2021 Cash Disbursements Warrant.

December 2021 Vendor Payment Warrant.

October 2021 PRIT Report.

November 2021 PRIT Report.

November 2021 MM Bank Reconciliation.

November 2021 Checking Account Reconciliation.

November 17, 2021 Minutes.

PERAC Memorandums that were reviewed:

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PERAC #32...December 02, 2021.....Cybersecurity and Internal Controls.

PERAC #33...December 09, 2021.....Tobacco Company List.

PERAC #34...December 16, 2021.....2021 Disability Data.

PERAC #35...December 16, 2021.....Annual Review of Medical Testing Fee.

Correspondence

Received emails dated December 1, 6 (reminder), 10 and 13 (reminder), 2021 from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) regarding a Webinar from the Inspector General (IGO) and a Webinar on Recent Cases of Interest. Board members who attend will receive three (3) educational credits.

November 16, 2021 received a letter from the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission (PERAC) for: *Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2023*.

December 01, 2021 received an email from the Middlesex County Retirement System announcing their Fall Newsletter.

December 03, 2021 received an email from Holly Authier, Legal Assistant with the Law Offices of Michael Sacco (Board Attorney) scheduling an evidentiary hearing on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 1:30 PM at the Amesbury City Hall Auditorium, 62 Friend Street for the disability application of Heather Ryan.

December 09, 2021 received email from the State Retirement Board regarding the COLA Reimbursement Payment.

December 09, 2021 received email from Attorney Jacqueline Hartley representing Heather Ryan's disability case confirming their attendance at an evidentiary hearing scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

The Board received a letter through PROSPER dated December 17, 2021 from PERAC regarding Section 3(8)(c) of Chapter 32 of the General Laws. The Amesbury Retirement System shall reimburse the Massachusetts Teachers' Retirement Board \$6,229.35 a year toward the retirement allowance of Theresa Arsenault, who retired August 17, 2019.

The Board received four emails dated November 19, December 03, 10, 17 2021 from the Mass Retirees regarding a variety of topics including *Medicare and Health Insurances, COLA, Preview of 2022 and Wrapping up 2022*.

New Business – None.

Old Business

Update on 2021 Retiree/Survivor Affidavits: All affidavits have been received completed and notarized.

Update on 3(8)(c) Reimbursements and Payments: All reimbursements and payments have been completed.

Board Member Craig Bailey inquired about the proposed COLA Base increase. Mayor Gove will be sponsoring the proposal to the City Council. There is a delay until the new City Councilors as well as the Mayor are sworn in for the new legislative term of office beginning January 2022.

It was noted that this will be Board Member Angel Wills last meeting as she is leaving as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in Amesbury to take the same position in the City of Haverhill. Everyone wished her the best and congratulated her.

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Discussion of topics not reasonably anticipated by the chair 48 hours before the meeting.

Having completed all business, Motion made by Craig Bailey and seconded by Angel Wills and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 PM.